

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2004/038671

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C07K14/47 A61K38/17

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, WPI Data, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 879 887 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM CORPORATION) 25 November 1998 (1998-11-25) the whole document	1-17
A	WO 98/13493 A (LXR BIOTECHNOLOGY, INC; UMANSKY, SAMUIL; MELKONYAN, HOVSEP) 2 April 1998 (1998-04-02) the whole document	1-17
	-/--	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

12/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	MELKONYAN HOVSEP S ET AL: "SARPs: A family of secreted apoptosis-related proteins" PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, vol. 94, no. 25, 9 December 1997 (1997-12-09), pages 13636-13641, XP002321917 ISSN: 0027-8424 the whole document -----	1-17
A	YANFENG WANG ET AL: "Wnt-frizzled signaling in the induction and differentiation of the neural crest." BIOESSAYS, vol. 25, no. 4, April 2003 (2003-04), pages 317-325, XP002321918 ISSN: 0265-9247 the whole document -----	1-17
A	CARICASOLE A ET AL: "The Wnt pathway, cell-cycle activation and beta-amyloid: novel therapeutic strategies in Alzheimer's disease?" TRENDS IN PHARMACOLOGICAL SCIENCES, ELSEVIER, AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 24, no. 5, May 2003 (2003-05), pages 233-238, XP004427196 ISSN: 0165-6147 the whole document -----	1-17

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-17
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 1-17

Claims refer to the use of a "secreted neural apoptosis inhibiting protein (SNAIP)", without further identifying the protein e.g. by means of an amino acid sequence or similar. Although on pg.31 of the description, reference is made to a "SEQ ID NO:1", no sequences appear to have been filed. Furthermore, the prior art does not unequivocally point to a protein to any protein called "secreted neural apoptosis inhibiting protein" or "SNAIP"; therefore, no meaningful search with respect to such a protein, or uses thereof, could be carried out.

This search report could therefore only be established with respect to proteins alleged in the application to display at least some functional relation to the "SNAIP" protein.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

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Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0879887	A	25-11-1998	CA	2224473 A1	21-11-1998
			CA	2229436 A1	21-11-1998
			EP	0879887 A1	25-11-1998
			JP	11075865 A	23-03-1999
			JP	2002112795 A	16-04-2002

WO 9813493	A	02-04-1998	AU	737323 B2	16-08-2001
			AU	4651397 A	17-04-1998
			CA	2266325 A1	02-04-1998
			EP	0932678 A2	04-08-1999
			JP	2002516564 T	04-06-2002
			WO	9813493 A2	02-04-1998
			US	2003023061 A1	30-01-2003
			US	2004039184 A1	26-02-2004
US	6433155 B1	13-08-2002			
